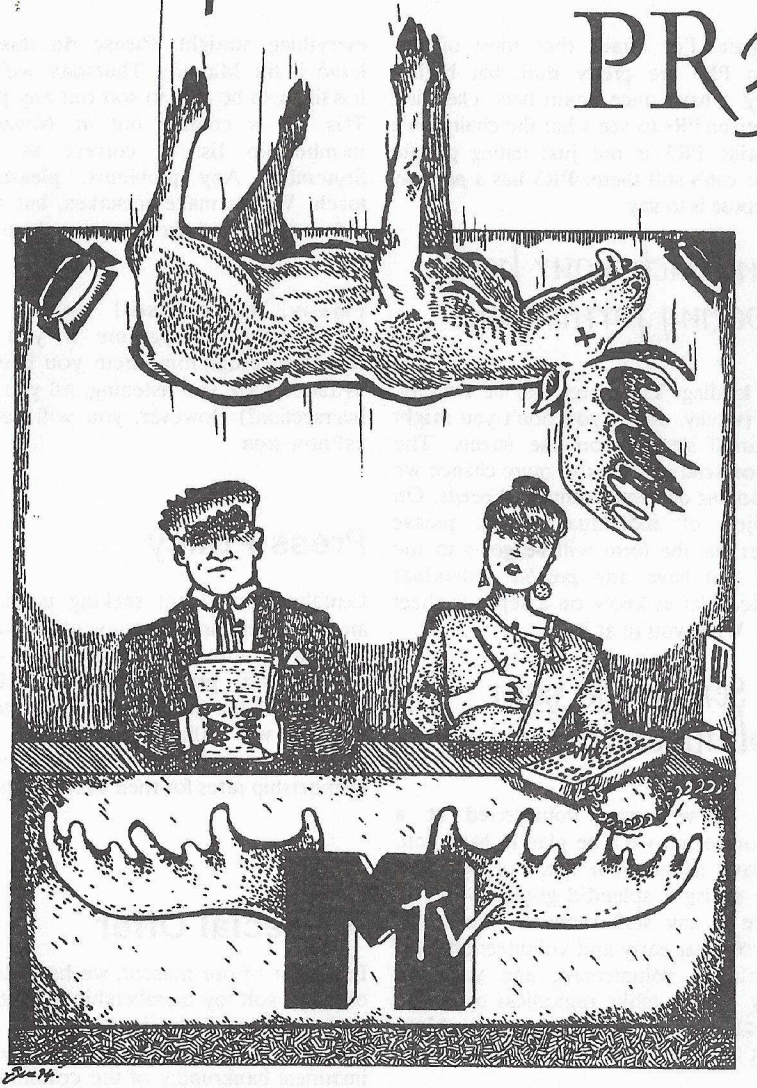
Confabulation PR3



DROP THE DEAD MOOSE... CONFABULATION...PR3...

Progress Report 3

Chairman's Bit

Hello again. I'm afraid that most of the things in PR3 are pretty dull, but highly necessary. I have once again been checking old Eastercon PRs to see what the chairman's bit contains. PR3 is not just letting people know the con's still there; PR3 has a *purpose.* That purpose is to say

Send back your hotel booking forms now!

I'm not kidding. The hotel will be twitchy, we'll be twitchy, and if you don't you might find yourself sleeping on the streets. The sooner you send it back, the more chance we have of sorting out your individual needs. On the subject of individual needs, please remember that the form will be going to the hotel; if you have any *peculiar* individual needs, please let us know on a separate sheet of paper. While you're at it

Send back your volunteer forms too!

Even if you've never volunteered at a convention before, we'll be glad to have you. If you have, tell us your areas of expertise. We'll be selling a splendid gopher t-shirt at cost price to any staff member who wants one, so volunteer early and volunteer often. If you've already volunteered, and you will definitely want a tshirt regardless of design (by Sue Mason) and price (not too high) please let us know that on the form too.

Also, now is the time to check your membership details and make sure we have everything straight. Please do this; if you leave it till Maundy Thursday we're much less likely to be able to sort out any problems. This PR is coming out at Novacon; the membership list is correct as of 15th September. Any problems, please get in touch. We *do* make mistakes, but we think we're not too bad about sorting them out.

Finally, there's still space on the Confabulation programme if you have a wonderful programme item you haven't told us about. (Are you listening, all you chaps at Intersection?) However, you will need to let us know *soon.*

Press Policy

Confabulation is not seeking publicity. We are not advertising the convention outside the fannish community, and we are not encouraging press attention. However, members of the press are welcome to attend, and we will talk to them; they will be required to pay full normal attending or day membership rates for their memberships.

A Special Offer

In honour of our mascot, we have decided to offer free soft toy membership to all bona fide stuffed moose. There is no truth in rumours that this policy was necessary to avoid the imminent bankruptcy of the committee when faced with buying memberships for their entire menagerie.

Tell Your Friends To Join Confabulation Now

Once upon a time there were three little fans.

Jophan has been told how wonderful Confabulation is going to be by all his mates, and decides to turn up at the Britannia International on the door on April 14th. Sadly, the convention is full, and we have to turn him away. Slowly and disconsolately, he turns away from the door, head hung low. He presses his little face against the windows of the Royal Lounge, looking inside at the happy scene of fans enjoying themselves. Suddenly, he realises that the Royal Lounge is thirty foot above the West India Docks, loses his non-existent footing, and falls in.

His mate, Bertphan, arrived at the convention a bit earlier. He'd been planning to come for months, but never quite got round to joining. He got to the registration desk, and found out what the rate was to join on the door. Unfortunately, his cash card only allows him to withdraw £250 a day, so he couldn't get in till Sunday.

Don't let this happen to your friends. We are already beginning to be concerned by the possibility of too many people coming to the convention. It's not designed to be a big con, and we'd like to keep the atmosphere as friendly as possible. The hotel, while somewhat expandable, is not infinite in size. We would like everyone who joins Confabulation to join in advance; we're not encouraging people to join on the door.

In order to put your money where our mouth is, we *will* be charging an extortionate on the door rate. We're not kidding, folks. If the convention gets too large then we *will* close membership. Our day memberships for walkins will also be extremely expensive. However, supporting members will be able to convert to either attending or day membership at a considerably lower cost than the basic 'walkin' rate. If you aren't sure whether you can come, or can't afford to pay all at once, we strongly advise you to buy a supporting membership for a tenner and guarantee the lower rate.

Fredphan did this; he has a limited income, and had to save up to get to the convention. So he bought a supporting membership in February, and when he arrived at Confabulation he converted to attending for a perfectly reasonable amount of money. And he had a wonderful time and lived happily ever after.

Masquerade

We will be having a masquerade on the Sunday night of the convention, which will be combined with the awards ceremony. We will be offering prizes for all the normal Best of Show sort of stuff, but also special prizes for the Best Costume based on the works of our Guests of Honour, Best Costume that Didn't Exist at Lunchtime and Best Moose. These may be combined; an impromptu Vor Moose in Imperial Whites might well be a winner.

If you are planning to use any special equipment or sound effects, please let us know well beforehand. We will not be having an elaborate lighting rig at Confabulation, but we will do what we can to help you. It would be useful to know if you are planning to enter the Masquerade, but in traditional Eastercon style, we will be able to take entries on the day.

We realise that many people will be keeping their best efforts for the Worldcon, so we would be glad to see old costumes being brought out for another showing. There will be a special prize for the best vintage costume but they will not be eligible for other prizes.

Bob Shaw

Confabulation's UK Guest of Honour is Bob Shaw. For many years, Bob has been one of the UK's leading SF authors and SF fans, and we are proud to have him as a Guest of Honour.

He was born in 1931 in Belfast, and grew up and was educated in Northern Ireland. He worked as a structural engineer, aircraft designer, and journalist before becoming a full-time author in 1975.

His first published story was "Aspect" which appeared in *Nebula Science Fiction* in 1954. Since then he has published an impressive body of stories and novels, tackling a wide range of themes. His best known early work is the short story "Light of Other Days", published in 1966, which introduced the concept of "slow glass", a type of glass which retards the passage of light for a period which can range from seconds to years. "Light of Other Days" was nominated for both the Hugo and Nebula awards for best short story. Further stories followed and all of the slow glass stories can be found in the collection *Other Days, Other Eyes* (1972).

His first novel was *Night Walk*, published in 1967. It was soon followed by several more, of which *Orbitsville* (1975) is perhaps the best known. This was one of the best novels arising from the fashion for SF novels set in vast structures. The eponymous Orbitsville is a Dyson sphere - a shell of matter completely enclosing a star at such a distance that life can survive on the inner surface, giving a habitable area billions of times that of the Earth. The novel concerns the discovery of the structure and the effects of that discovery on human society. It was followed by two sequels, *Orbitsville Departure* and *Orbitsville Judgement*.

Apart from these, his best-known work is probably the *Ragged Astronauts* series, consisting of *The Ragged Astronauts* (1986), *The Wooden Spaceships* (1988) and *The Fugitive Worlds* (1989). These tell the story of two planets, Land and Overland, which orbit each other sufficiently closely to share a common atmosphere, making balloon travel between the two practical. *The Ragged Astronauts* was nominated for the Hugo award for best novel.

Most recently, he has published *Warren Peace*, a sequel to his successful 1977 novel *Who Goes Here?*. These two novels reveal that Bob can also write successful comedy, poking fun at many of the conventions of genre SF.

But this gives only one side to Bob Shaw's science fiction achievements. Even if he had never written a word of professional fiction, he would still be a worthy Guest of Honour for an Eastercon. With Walt Willis, he wrote the fannish classic "The Enchanted Duplicator" - for those with Internet access, this can be obtained by ftp from gandalf.rutgers.edu/pub/sfl/the-enchanted-duplicator.txt. He won the Hugo award for best fan writer in 1979 and again in 1980.

His "Serious Scientific Talks", featuring the great German-Irish scientist Von Donegan, have been a highlight of Eastercons for many years, although they are only occasionally scientific, and even less frequently are they serious.

We plan to have a fuller appreciation of Bob's work in the convention programme book. We are delighted to have him as a Guest of Honour and we are sure that you will all join us in welcoming him to Confabulation.

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Membership List

½r	a	Mark A. Bunce	a	Colin Fine	a
A³	a	Bill Burns	a	Fiona	a
Geir Aasud	a	Mary Burns	a	Brian Flatt	a
Abaddon	a	Steven Cain	a	Ronan Flood	a
Tom Abba	a	Jenny Campbell	a	Mike Ford	a
Michael Abbott	a	Matt Campbell	a	Aletia Fountain	a
Arnold Akien	a	Ramsey Campbell	a	Foxy	t
Gill Alderman	a	Tammy Campbell	a	Susan Francis	a
John Alderman	a	Peter Card	a	Anders Frihagen	a
Iain Alexander	a	Caro	a	Wolfgang Frisch	a
Alice	a	Carolyn Caughey	a	Gwen Funnell	a
Kay Allan	a	Ceri	a	Pat Gardner	a
Lissa Allcock	a	Mark Charsley	a	David Garnett	a
Philip Allcock	a	Chris	a	Peter T. Garratt	a
Paul Allwood	a	Merry Chrismoose	m	Mary Gentle	a
Brian Ameringen	a	Ewan Chrystal	a	Joe Gibbons	a
Ellen T Andersen	a	Dave Clements	a	Clare Goodall	a
Another Friend of Fiona Anderson	a	Eddie Cochrane	a	Gordon T. Gopher	t
Fiona Anderson	a	Jack Cohen	a	Peter Grace	s
Friend of Fiona Anderson	a	Peter Cohen	a	John Graham	s
David Angus	a	Chris Cooper	a	Steve Grover	a
Sion Arrowsmith	a	David T. Cooper	a	Alan Gunn	a
Margaret Austin	a	Stephen R. Cooper	a	Ian Gunn	s
Amanda Baker	a	Count	a	Urban Gunnarsson	a
Aileen Banks	a	Jonathan Cowie	a	Nicholas Haines	a
John Bark	a	Dave Cox	s	Tony Hammond	a
Michael Barker	i	Paul M. Cray	a	The Flying Hamster	s
Trevor Barker	a	Andy Croft	a	Judith Hanna	a
Phil Barnard	a	James Crook	a	Dave Hardy	a
David V. Barrett	a	Rafe Culpin	a	John Harold (Miles Veteranus)	a
Andrew Barton	s	David J. Curry	a	Colin Harris	a
Stephen Baxter	a	John Dallman	a	Sue Harrison	a
Bazooka!	a	Steve Davies	a	Harry's Mum	a
Covert Beach	a	Martyn Dawe	a	Eef Hartman	a
Mary Beaird	a	Robert Day	a	Eve Harvey	a
Square Bear	a	Giulia De Cesare	a	John Harvey	a
Chris Bell	a	Lawrence Dean	a	Julian Headlong	a
Dave Bell	a	Chantal Delessert	a	Alasdair Hepburn	a
Kenneth Bell	c	Record Demon	a	Hitch	a
Rachel Bell	c	Zoe Deterding	a	Jean Hoare	a
Ron Bennett	a	Gillian Dickson	a	Martin Hoare	a
Michael Bernardi	a	Martin Dickson	a	Dave Holladay	a
Blackie	a	Chris Donaldson	a	Valerie Housden	a
Doctor Bob	a	Paul Dormer	a	Terry Hunt	s
Hans-Ulrich Boettcher	a	Drew	a	Tim Illingworth	a
Duncan Booth	a	David Drysdale	a	Judith Jackson	a
Judy Booth	a	Jackie Duckhawk	s	Daniel James	a
Susan Booth	a	Pauline E. Dungate	a	Rhodri James	a
Jill Bradley	a	Dyrewulfe	a	John Jarrold	a
Phil Bradley	a	Roger Earnshaw	a	Jenny	a
Simon Bradshaw	a	Martin Easterbrook	a	Jinx	a
Michael Braithwaite	a	Sue Edwards	a	John	a
Richard Brandshaft	a	Eira	a	Sue Jones	s
John Bray	a	Mr Elk Jr	m	Dick Jude	a
Steve Brewster	a	Dave Ellis	a	Dick Jude (2)	a
Andi Bridges	a	Sean Ellis	a	Desirée Kaill	a
Janet Bridges	a	John English	a	Mike Kaill	a
Gillian Brodbeer	a	Coune Erik	a	Kally	a
Trevor Brodbeer	a	Bernie Evans	a	Kamal	a
Denzil Brown	a	Mick Evans	a	The Flying Brother Karamoosov (1)	m
E. D. Buckley	a	Allison Ewing	a	The Flying Brother Karamoosov (2)	m
Bug	a	FanTom	a	The Flying Brother Karamoosov (3)	m
Lois McMaster Bujold	g	Feryal	s	Kari	a
Steve Bull	a	Mike Figg	a	Kathy	a

Roz Kaveney	a	Dave Patterson	a	Fay Symes	a
Richard Kennaway	a	David Peek	a	Dave Tamlyn	a
Keris	a	Arline Peyton	a	Tanya	s
Richard Kettlewell	a	Rog Peyton	a	Alyson Taylor	a
Paul Kincaid	a	Phil Plumbly	a	Graham Taylor	a
Annette Kirk	a	Mark Plummer	a	Ian Taylor	a
Tim Kirk	a	Andrew Porter	a	Teddy	a
Alice Kohler	a	David Power	a	Marc ter Horst	a
Pompino the Kregoyne	a	Rachel	a	Dave Thomas	a
Christina Lake	a	Deborah Ramage	a	Dawn Thorley	a
Dave Lally	a	Syd Ramage	a	Paul Thorley	a
Dave Langford	a	Bill Ray	a	Tibs	a
Murphy's Lawyer	a	Campbell Rees	a	Helen Tidswell	a
Ruth Le Sueur	a	Nicky Retallick	a	TJ	a
Paddy Leahy	a	Anders Reuterswärd	s	Deborah Tompkinson	a
Chris Linton	a	Stephen Rice	a	Tony	s
Steve Linton	a	JFW Richards	a	Totoro 2	t
Lion-O (maybe)	s	David Riley	a	Hunter S. Toxin	a
Daniel Livingstone	s	Roger Robinson	g	Martin Tudor	a
Hans Loose	a	Mic Rogers	a	Peter Tyers	a
Karen Lukaloski	a	Tony Rogers	a	Larry van der Putte	a
Lex Luthor	a	Howard Rosenblum	a	Marion van der Voort	a
Keith M.	a	June Rosenblum	a	Richard van der Voort	a
Bobby MacLaughlin	a	Michelle Rosenblum	i	Annemarie van Ewyck	a
The Magician	a	Stephen Rothman	a	Jan Veldhoen	a
Nicholas Mahoney	s	Marcus L. Rowland	a	David B. Wake	a
Elise Mann	s	Alasdair Russell	a	Huw Walters	a
Ken Mann	s	Geoff Ryman	a	Steve Walters	a
Therer Marceline	a	Lenah Sarah	a	Peter Wareham	a
Russell March	a	Sarum	a	Woad Warrior	a
Keith Martin	a	Bruce Saville	a	Pam Wells	a
Hugh Mascetti	a	Sharon Sbarsky	a	Patty Wells	a
Sue Mason	a	Cpt Scarlett	a	Karen Westhead	c
Robert Maughan	a	Alison Scott	a	Kathy Westhead	a
Martin McCallion	a	Mike Scott	a	Mike Westhead	a
Alastair E. McCullough	s	Angus Scott-Brown	a	Peter Westhead	c
Angus McMuffin	t	Shaggy	m	Alison Weston	a
Pat McMurray	a	Sharon	s	Eileen Weston	a
Rob Meades	a	Bob Shaw	g	Pete Weston	a
John Meaney	a	Linda Shipman	a	Susan Weston	a
Yvonne Meaney	a	Mike D. Siddall	a	Elda Wheeler	a
Quantum Mechanic	a	Pat Silver	a	Kim Whysall	a
Melusine	a	Simon	a	Colin Wightman	a
Debbie Moir	a	Simon	a	Cherry Wilder	a
Mike Moir	a	Sioux	a	Janet Wilkins	a
Mike Molloy	a	Ken F. Slater	a	Robert Williams	a
Moosaki	m	Jannelies Smit	a	Carol Willis	a
Mooscles	m	Frank R. Smith	a	Phil Willis	a
Official Moose	m	Valentine Michael Smith	a	Robert Wilson	a
Sven the Moose	m	Jane Smithers	a	Kathrin Witt	a
Chris Morgan	a	Smitty	a	Uwe-Michael Witt	a
Tim Morley	a	Adrian Snowdon	a	Wizard	a
Steve Mowbray	a	Kate Soley	a	Alan Woodford	a
Caroline Mullan	a	Spanner	a	Anne Woodford	a
Harry Nadler	s	Maureen Speller	a	Ben Yalow	a
Nazgul of Norn	a	James Steel	a		
Joseph Nicholas	a	Helen Steele	a		
Nick	a	Steve	a	Key to membership codes:	
Nojay	a	Alex Stewart	a		
Andrew Norcross	a	Barbara Stewart	a	Guest	g
Pete the Gun Nut	a	John Stewart	a	Attending	a
Paul Oldroyd	a	Mike Stone	a	Supporting	s
Omega	a	Mike Stone	a	Child	c
Ook	a	Lars Strandberg	a	Infant	i
Oriole	a	Marcus Streets	a	Soft Toy	t
Roger P	a	Rae Streets	a	Moose	m
Arwel Parry	a	Charles Stross	a		
Joan Paterson	a	David Symes	a		

Useful Information

Confabulation is the 1995 Eastercon (UK National Science Fiction Convention). It is being held 14-17 April, 1995, at the Britannia International Hotel, Marsh Wall, Docklands, London E14. The room rates at the hotel are £31 per person per night twin or double, and £37 per person per night, including VAT and full English breakfast. Suites are available; price on application.

Our Guests of Honour are Lois McMaster Bujold, Bob Shaw and Roger Robinson.

Membership rates are:

£20 attending until 31/12/94

£25 attending from 1/1/95 until 31/3/95

£10 supporting until 31/3/95

Children born after 13/4/81 pay £10 attending; children born after 13/4/87 do not have to pay, but can join (and get a badge) for £1 if they like.

Similarly, soft toys can join for a pound if they like, and bona fide soft toy moose can join for nothing.

Dealers' Tables: book these on the volunteer form. £20 for the first table and £40 for each subsequent.

Advertising rates:

PR4 - £30 per page cash with order or £50 invoiced on publication; copy deadline 15th January. ½ and ¼ pages pro rata. A4 copy for reduction to A5 please.

Programme Book - £50 per page cash with order or £100 invoiced on publication; copy deadline 31st January. ½ and ¼ pages pro rata. A4 copy for reduction to A5 please.

Camera ready copy only. We reserve the right to reject any advertisement.

Confabulation, 3 York Street, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA15 9QH

Please send me _____ Attending/Supporting membership(s) of Confabulation at £20 per attending member, £10 per supporting member (rate valid until 31/12/94, then £25 until 31/3/95). I agree that my name and details may be held on computer database.

Name: .....

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Telephone: .....

Email: .....

Badge name: .....